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| **Children/Young People Missing from Home and Care** |  |

**RELATED CHAPTERS**

[**Child Sexual Exploitation Procedure**](http://www.proceduresonline.com/sbni/chapters/p_ch_sexual_exploit.html)

[**Children/Young People Affected by Gang/Group Activity or Serious Youth Violence**](http://www.proceduresonline.com/sbni/chapters/p_ch_affected_gang_act.html)

**Introduction**

Children/young people running away and going missing from home and care is a central issue for the Safeguarding Board for Northern Ireland. Current research findings estimate that 25 per cent of children/ young people, who go missing are likely to suffer significant harm. There are specific concerns about the links between children/young people running away and the risks of sexual exploitation. Looked After Children (LAC) missing from their placements are vulnerable to sexual and other exploitation, especially children/young people in residential care.

The arrangements for responding to children/young people missing from home and care in Northern Ireland are set out in the [**Missing Children Protocol (Runaway and Missing from Home and Care**](http://www.proceduresonline.com/sbni/files/missing_ch_pr.pdf)**)**.

**End**